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## EASTERN

F.O. 371

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PALESTINE

FILE No. 1293

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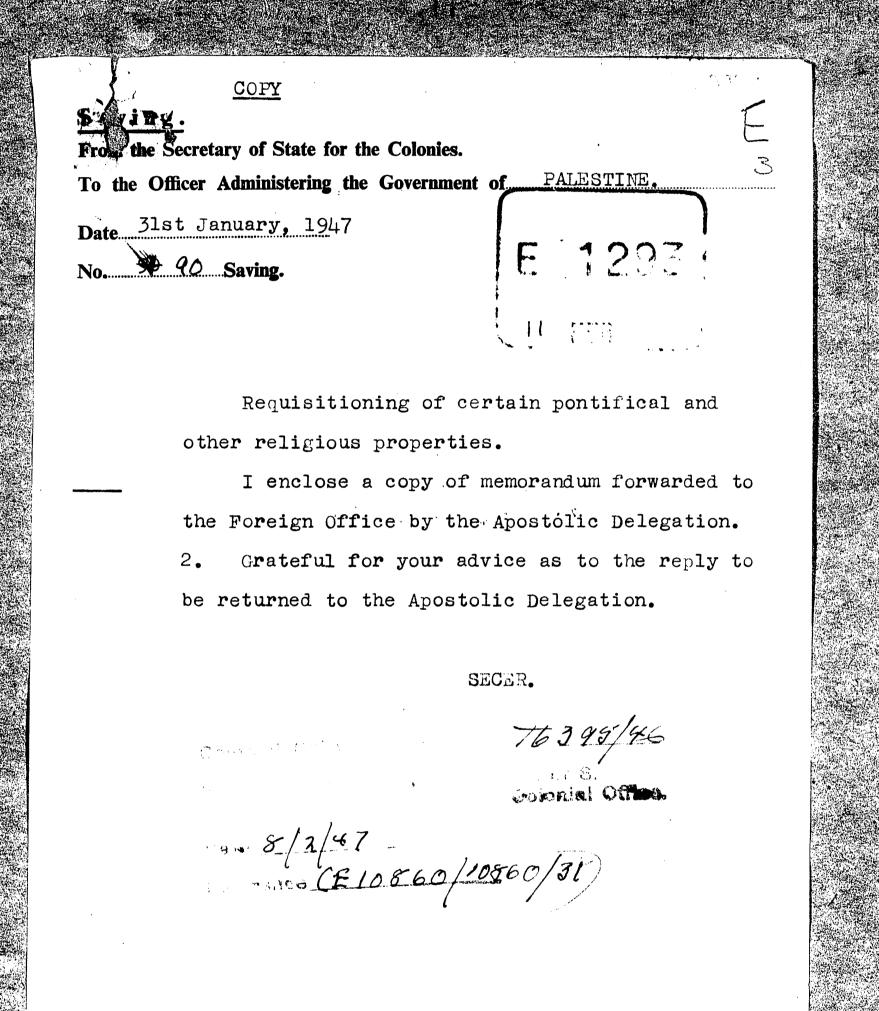
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lie Delegat is . R. Howl

(Minutes.)

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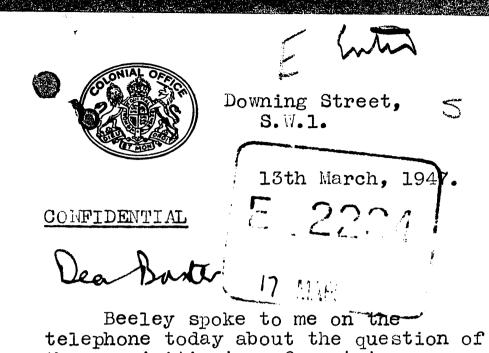
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32003 F.O.P



Beeley spoke to me on the telephone today about the question of the requisitioning of certain pontifical and other religious property, raised in your letter E.10860/10860/31 of the 11th November. I have made enquiries and discovered a reply from the High Commissioner dated the 26th February, of which I now enclose a copy. I hope it will provide you with material for an adequate reply to the Apostolic Delegate.

I am sorry that we have not let you have this earlier.

Your smuel

C.W. BANTER, ESQ., C.M.G.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference:- FO

371 / 618

Your No. 90 Saving of 31st January, 1947.

Requisitioning of certain pontifical and other religious properties.

The ground and first-floors of the Pontifical Biblical Institute are still in occupation of the Department of Food Control. Half of the second-floor is occupied by the Town Planning Department, while the Director of the Institute retains the use of the other half.

- 2. In view of the continued world food-shortage which necessitates the maintenance of controls and in view also of recent security moves in Jerusalem with the consequential concentration of Government Offices, I regret that at present I am unable to consider relinquishing this property.
- 3. The Apostolic Delegate may however be informed that the possibility of vacating properties of the Holy See for return to their original use is being kept under constant review.

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Reference:- FO 371 / 61895

**GPP.** 23454 -- 4000---29,8,45

OUT FILE Registry No. E 2284/1293/31 3 S March, 1947. Top Secret. Secret. Confidential. Restricted. Dear archbishop, You left with me on the 1st November, Dryft.1946, a memorandum concerning the The Apostolic Delegate. requisitioning by the Government of 54, Park Side London, S.W. 19 Palestine of the Pontifical Biblion Adigious properties. I am sorry not to have been able (From Sir R. Howe) to reply before. I have ascertained from the Colonial Office that the first the Biblical Institute in Junealium floor of this building is still occupied by the Department of Food Control, and half of the second floor by the Town 424: Planning Department, but that the Director of the Institute retains the Western Dys remainder of the second floor. As a result of recent events in Palestine, the Administration are faced with exceptional difficulties in finding accommodation for their essential requirements. They regret that they are therefore unable to terminate their occupation of this fortunal property at the/

the present moment. They are however keeping under constant review the

possibility of vacating the premises of the Biblical Institute for return to their original use. R.V.S. WRITTEN IN Yours Sincerely (Sd.) R. G. HOWE.

Reference:- FO 371 / 618

(E. 2284/1293/31).

315t. March, 1947.

Dear archbishop,

You left with me on the 1st Movember, 1946, a memorandum concerning the requisitioning by the Government of Palestine of certain Pontifical and other religious properties.

I am sorry not have been able to reply before. I have ascertained from the colonial office that the first floor of the biblical Institute in Jerusalem is still occupied by the pepartment of Food Control, and half of the second floor by the Town Planning Department, but that the director of the Institute retains the remainder of the second floor.

As a result of recent events in ralestine, the Administration are faced with exceptional difficulties in finding accommodation for their essential requirements. They regret that they are therefore unable to terminate their occupation of this property at the present moment. They are however keeping under constant review the possibility of vacating properties of the Holy see for return to their original use.

## Yours Sincerely

5 (5qd.) (n. . . Howe).

The Apostolic Delegate,
54, Lark Side,
5.0.19.

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Wt 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.I'.



Forwarded from 54, PARKSIDE, Sin R. Hron at Khantom LONDON, S. W. 19. in later date July 22 received July 29 30th June, 1947.

Our Ref: 6803/E Your ref: (E.2284/1293/31) 19/7

E | 6971

AUG 1947

Dear mr. Howl,

You will remember that in October of last year I left with you a from Memoria regarding religious houses in Palestine, and you kindly replied on March 31st to the effect that the Administration in Palestine were keeping under constant review the possibility of vacating properties of the Holy See for return to their original use.

Recently a Franciscan priest, by name the Rev. Father Hoade, who is chaplain to the Palestine Police called here and asked me with much urgency to take the matter up again. He left with me a list of the principal Catholic buildings occupied by the Government at the moment. Those marked indicate the ones which he considers should be returned as soon as possible:-

\*Italian Hospital (still in use as Military Hospital)
Old Italian Hospital
\*German Hospital (occupied by the police)
3Carmelite Buildings

\*Franciscan Monastery (occupied by Poles. The Community responsible for the Sanctuaries and the parish have only a few rooms).

Casa Nova Hospice

\*Convent of the Franciscan Sisters (occupied by Poles)

Salesian Monastery (occupied by Poles)

Austrian Hospice (occupied by Army)

Tabgha Hospice (occupied by Government).

/Father Hoade's

R.G. Howe Esq., Foreign Office, S.W. 1.

61895

5. AT 10 DEPT.

Father Hoade's contention is that this list shows that the Catholic community has had to make more sacrifices of buildings than all the others together, and that during the war the Catholic body did everything possible to help, and, at great inconvenience put every building available at the disposal of the Government. He states that despite the local troubles the same necessity does not now exist.

Palestine is very badly in need of hospitals, he tells me, and something should be done quickly to try to reopen the three hospitals mentioned; the Sisters and Staff of these hospitals have had to take lodging in private houses, and are living in very straitened circumstances, and in places where conditions are not proper for persons who are dedicated to the religious life.

Father Hoade also raised the question of alternative accommodation for the Poles, now occupying the buildings in Nazareth, and expressed the opinion that they could, without much difficulty, be housed elsewhere.

He added that the rents paid for the buildings were extremely low, and concluded by saying that the Catholic Authorities in ralestine were strongly convinced that their work was greatly hindered by these requisitions.

As I have been urged by my colleague, Bishop Hughes, who is acting Apostolic Delegate in Cairo, to bring this matter to the kind consideration of His Majesty's Government, I would be most grateful if you could give this urgent matter your careful and sympathetic consideration.

Believe me,

Jour smeere G + W. Godfrey

Archbishop of Cius Apostolic Delegate RECORD OFFICE, LI

61895

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Registry
No. £6971/1293/31 Confidential. Draft. Letter 15 Mr. Trafferd Smith, (from Mr. Baster) H13. 3/4

Dear Trafford Smith, 11 h any May ? refer you to your letter of the 13th March, inclusing a copy of generalem Savingram no 224, containing information for which in had been asked of the Apostolic Delegate on the outpit of requisitioned religious propueties in Palstin.

We have now received a further delayed through tring letter ( I forwarded to Sir Robert Hour I from Khastoum) from th Aportolie Deligate, and 9 inclose

advice on the reply we should ound 15 the Apost olic Deligato. (Sqd.) C.W. Baxter.

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FORFIGN OFFICE. S.W.1.

(% 6971/1293/31)

11th August, 1947.

## Dear Trafford Cuith,

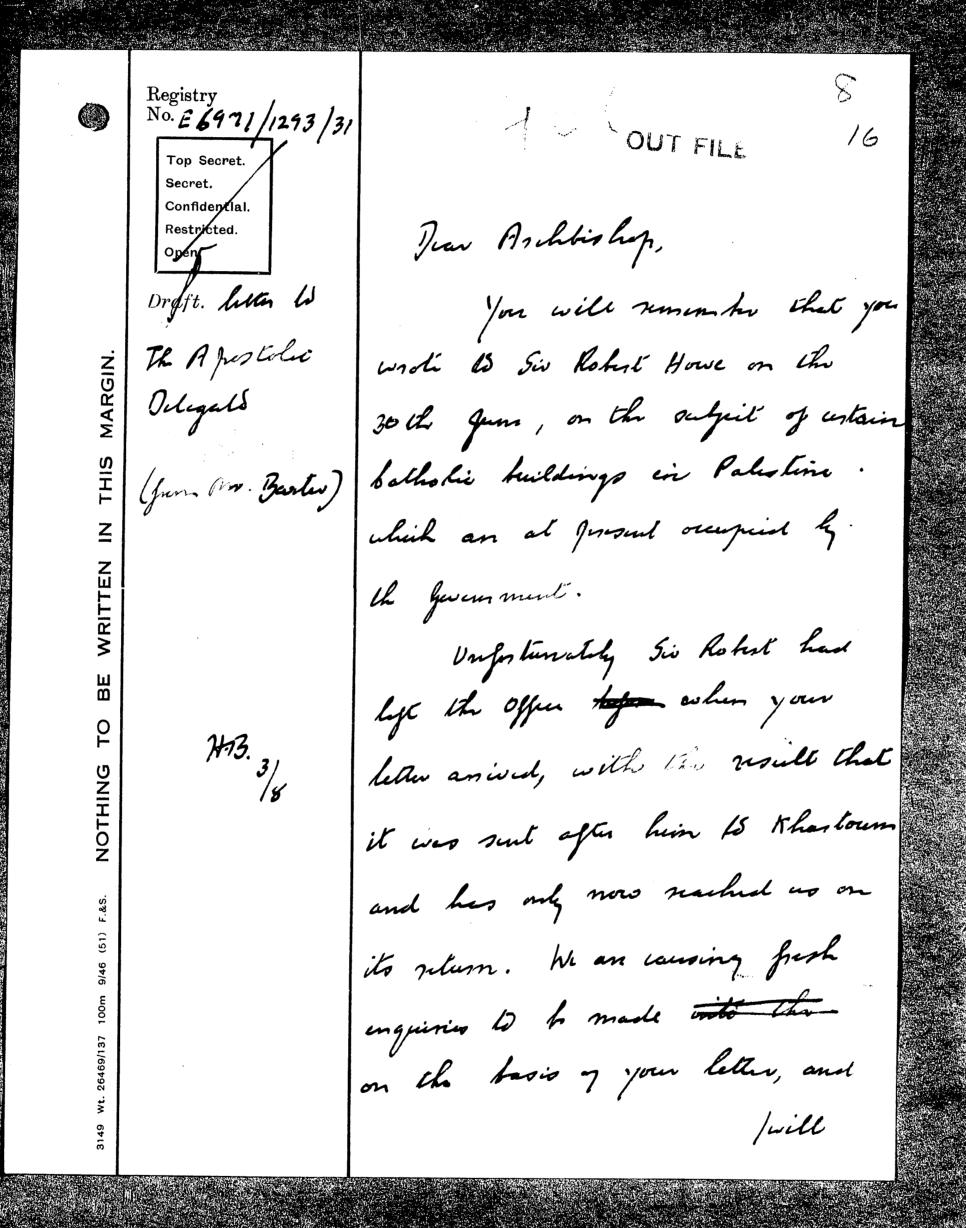
March, enclosing a copy of Jerusalem avingram
No. 224, containing information for which we
had been asked by the Apostolic Delegate on the
subject of requisitioned religious properties in
Palestine.

We have now received a further letter (delayed through being forwarded to tir Robert Howe in Thartoum from the Anostolic Delegate, and I enclose two covies. I should be graneful if you would send one to Palestine with a request for advice on the reply we should send to the Apostolic Delegate.

(Sqd.)(C. W. Bexter)

Trafford Smith, Saq., Colonial Office.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference:- FO

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inform you of their outcome in du course. (Syd.) C.W. Barter.

DUT FILE

18

FOREIGN OFFICE. S.W.1.

11th August, 1947.

(F 6971/1293/31)

Dear Archbishon,

Robert Howe on the 30th June, on the subject of certain Catholic buildings in Palestine which are at present occupied by the Government.

Unfortunately dir Robert had left the office when your letter arrived, with the result that it was sent after him to Khartoum and has only now reached us on its return. We are causin fresh enquiries to be made on the basis of your letter, and will inform you of their outcome in due course.

(Sade ) (C. W. Baxter)

The Most Reverend
Archbishop William Godfrey,
54, Parkside,
E.W.19.

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1 2 3 \* 5 6 Reference:- FO

371 / 61895



Keep min pp MJ 15/8

4, PARKSIDE

LONDON, S. W. 19.

APOSTOLIC DELEGATION

Your ref: (E 6971/1293/31)

13th August, 1947.

6971 1293 21

Dear Mr. Baxter,

In the absence of the Apostolic Delegate I write to thank you for your kind letter to him of August 11th.

The Archbishop will be most grateful for the enquiries you are having made on the subject of certain Catholic buildings in Palestine.

Yours sincerely,

Wand Cashman.

Rev. Secretary Apostolic Delegation

C.W. Baxter Esq., C.M.G., M.C., The Foreign Office, S.W. 1.

